

STATE OF WASHINGTON

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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January 13, 2006

ANDREW MASCOTT 1651 NE 169TH ST SHORELINE WA 98155-6015

Subject: Complaint filed against Carolyn Edmonds - PDC Case No. 06-242

Dear Mr. Mascott:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff has completed its investigation of your complaint received September 6, 2005, alleging that King County Councilmember Carolyn Edmonds used the public resources and facilities of King County to assist her 2005 re-election campaign. PDC staff reviewed the complaint in light of the following statute:

RCW 42.17.130 prohibits elected officials, their employees, and persons appointed to or employed by a public office or agency from using or authorizing the use of public facilities, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of assisting a candidate's campaign or for the promotion of, or opposition to, any ballot proposition.

You alleged that Carolyn Edmonds used the facilities of King County to produce photographs that appeared in campaign advertisements and assisted her 2005 re-election campaign. As evidence, you noted that Ms. Edmonds' used photographs in her campaign ads that appear to have been taken from her official King County Council newsletter.

We found that:

- Carolyn Edmonds was a candidate for re-election to the King County Council in 2005.
- Ms. Edmonds used photographs in campaign advertisements that also appeared in her official King County Council newsletter.
- The photographs used in her campaign advertisements were paid for with campaign funds. The photographs were taken by Brian Dalbalcon, a professional photographer. The campaign paid Mr. Dalbalcon \$742.50 on June 10, 2005 and reported the expenditure on Ms. Edmonds' June 2005 C-4 report.

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• Ms. Edmonds gave copies of the photographs taken by Mr. Dalbalcon to King County for use in her official King County Council newsletter. King County was not charged for use of the photographs.

The evidence shows that Ms. Edmonds did not use public facilities of King County to assist her 2005 re-election campaign.

After a careful review of the alleged violations and relevant facts, we have concluded our investigation and, with the concurrence of the Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, I am dismissing your complaint against Carolyn Edmonds. By separate letter, Ms. Edmonds is being notified of this dismissal.

If you have questions, please contact Phil Stutzman, Director of Compliance, at (360) 664-8853 or toll free at 1-877-601-2828.

Sincerely,

Vicki Rippie

Executive Director